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IEG/WGD-221-70
30 December 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR: Executive Officer, Imagery Exploitation Group, NPIC

SUBJECT : NPIC and DIA Readout of OLD HEAD Photography of Cuba

1. On at least three recent occasions, the DIA DI-8 readout of OLD HEAD photography performed at the Naval Reconnaissance and Technical Support Center has differed from the subsequent NPIC readout of that same photography. This readout, which is apparently reported by DI-8 personnel to the JCS, has been concerned with the Soviet naval vessels in Cuba.

25X1 2. [REDACTED] DI-8 reported that the "special purpose barges", previously observed at Cayo Ocampo in Cienfuegos Bay, had left Cienfuegos. NPIC reported that although the barges could not be discerned at Cayo Ocampo, haze, obliquity, and cloud cover in the area may have obscured them. (Subsequent photography revealed the barges were at Cienfuegos but had been moved to the Naval Base).

25X1 3. [REDACTED] DI-8 apparently failed to observe and report an ASW exercise taking place north of Mariel involving an F-Class submarine, a Kashin Class DLG, and 4 sub-chasers. NPIC reported this activity.

25X1 4. [REDACTED] DI-8 apparently reported that "the submarine" was not present at Cienfuegos. NPIC reported in its initial cable a possible submarine in deep shadow alongside the UGRA subtender at Cienfuegos. In a follow-up cable, NPIC confirmed the presence of the submarine (an F-Class) based on stereoscopic study of varying density film positives.

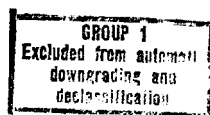
5. It should be emphasized that our understanding of what DI-8 has reported to the JCS is based on hearsay evidence. No hard evidence, such as cables, PI reports, etc., are available to us.

[REDACTED]

Chief, Western Geographic Division, IEG/NPIC

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